

Michael F. Easley
Governor



State of North Carolina
Office of the Governor

For Release: **IMMEDIATE**
Date: November 1, 2004

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**GOV. EASLEY ANNOUNCES 300 JOBS AND \$6 MILLION INVESTMENT
IN ROCKINGHAM COUNTY**
One North Carolina Fund grant helps convert old Pillowtex plant into transport facility

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY – Gov. Mike Easley announced today that High Point-based MGM Transport Corp. is expanding in Eden, creating 300 jobs and an investment of \$6 million to convert a former Pillowtex plant into a state-of-the-art trucking facility. The expansion is made possible in part by a \$250,000 grant from the One North Carolina Fund and workforce training incentives.

“MGM Transport continues to grow in North Carolina because of our investments in education and workforce development that ensure the company has the skilled workers it needs,” Easley said. “The creation of 300 well-paying jobs is further proof that those investments are paying off.”

MGM President Edward Massood confirmed that the training some of his workers will receive from the North Carolina Community College System is a major attraction for his company, which uses highly technical equipment. “We believe strongly in the community college network,” Massood said. “It is one of the strengths of North Carolina.”

Founded by brothers Michael and George Massood in 1952, MGM (“Michael-George-Massood”) Transport serves two-thirds of the furniture manufacturers nationwide with daily deliveries to more than 20 states. MGM Transport added a warehousing division about two years ago.

The Eden plant will combine the company’s warehousing and distribution capabilities and add light assembly and home-delivery components to provide one-stop shopping for customers. Massood explained that the high cost of containers makes it more economical for overseas companies to ship furniture in pieces rather than fully assembled. The Eden plant will finish that assembly, then box, wrap and deliver the finished items.

The One North Carolina Fund helps the state recruit and expand quality jobs by providing financial assistance to businesses or industries deemed by the Governor to be vital to a healthy and growing state economy. Through the use of this fund, more than 12,000 jobs and \$1 billion in investment have been created since 2001.

Anyone interested in applying for a job with MGM Transport Corp. should contact the Employment Security Commission office in Rockingham County at (336) 634-5600.

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